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San Antonio



The
Convention
City



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SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

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**PUBLICATIONS OF THE
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San Antonio, the Beautiful

*Edition de Luxe
A Book for the Tourist*

FARM FACTS

*A Book of facts about farming in the
San Antonio country*

*San Antonio—
the Convention City*

IN PREPARATION

Commercial San Antonio

A Book for Investors

For Further information address

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Secretary Chamber of Commerce

San Antonio, Texas

San Antonio==
the Convention City



1837

THE ALAMO
MEXICO

San Antonio== the Convention City



SAN ANTONIO is a convention city par excellence. This is true because San Antonio is different from any other city in the United States. It has an interest, atmosphere and individuality all its own. The leaven of the Latin population gives a touch of the holiday spirit even to the working days. San Antonio breathes of fiestas and festivals and its very name is suggestive of a good time.

The picturesque beauty of San Antonio is a joy forever. Its historic buildings are a never failing source of interest. The venerable Alamo, the cradle of Texas liberty that was the scene of one of the most heroic episodes in the world's history, is in itself a shrine that is worth a journey to San Antonio to visit.

Outside the city four ancient missions, partly in ruins, recall the glamour and romance of the old Spanish days. A beautiful macadam road lined with big trees leads to them,





Driveway in
Brackenridge
Park

winding through green fields and along the meandering San Antonio river and making the trip a rare pleasure.

The old San Fernando Cathedral with its ancient pictures and relics is also eloquent of old San Antonio and the days when the Spanish grandees touched elbows with the American buccaneers in the picturesque plazas.

Fort Sam Houston, where the Government has spent about three million dollars in building the second largest army post in America is also worthy of the tourist's visit.

Here the bugle's shrill clarion, the roll of drums and the tramp of armed men reproduce the pomp and pageantry of war and the visitor can get an accurate conception of that splendid fighting machine, the United States army.

The San Antonio river winds through the heart of the city and is spanned by dozens of bridges and along most of its course is lined with big trees bringing bits of sylvan beauty into the heart of the city. In addition parks and plazas are scattered throughout the city. Of these the most beautiful is Alamo Plaza on which faces the famous chapel; Travis Square where the Confederate monument towers its graceful height; Main Plaza on which the San



The Quadrangle—Fort Sam Houston

Fernando Cathedral and the Courthouse face, and Military Plaza, in the center of which stands the graceful City Hall.

San Pedro Park is a beautiful woodland of about forty acres where the San Pedro Springs gush from the rocks. Brackenridge Park consists of about two hundred acres of native woodland. Here big pecan and live-oak

Confederate Monument
in Travis Park



trees overarch winding roadways and trail the banks of the San Antonio river.

In addition, San Antonio has about 185 miles of beautiful roadways which wind past meadow and farm to the upland hills in the northwest where the mountains begin. No city in America has more beautiful automobile roads through a greater variety of scenery.



First
Mission

Last, but not least, San Antonio is a city with all the city conveniences; magnificent modern hotels which provide every luxury of equipment and of the culinary art. It has numerous theatres and places of amusement; it has churches and schools, and a complete street car system whose transfers carry you all over the city. Its water supply, drawn from thirteen artesian wells at a depth of 1200 to 1600 feet is the best and the most wholesome to be had in America. The water is sparkling, cold and delicious to the taste and coming from such a depth is beyond the reach of all germs or impurities.

These things, combined with a climate unsurpassed, make San Antonio the convention city of America. During eight months of the

year the climate of San Antonio has a rare quality that is unmatched. Even in mid-winter, days of perfect sunshine make out-door life delightful. The four summer months have the heat tempered by a continuous gulf breeze and with cool delightful nights make life always enjoyable.



Second Mission

The people of San Antonio are hospitable and cordial. The stranger within our gate is always welcome. Even the casual man on the street will go out of his way to direct you where you want to go and to show you any simple courtesies in his power. San Antonio has ample halls for the holding of conventions and any convention that contemplates coming to San Antonio is invited to correspond with the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce who will take pleasure in arranging the detail for the officers.

San Antonio wants you to come and come again. You are welcome here and the latch-string is always out.

Side Trips

San Antonio stands at the junction of the great highways North and South and East and West. It is very easy for conventions that meet here to wind up in side excursions into Old Mexico where the visitor can come in contact with the oldest civilization on the American Continent and can inspect at first hand the remains of the Aztecs, on which is builded the modern Latin civilization of Mexico, and the visitor can get all the pleasure of foreign travel without having to go very far away from home.



Third Mission

It is only a few hours ride from San Antonio to the Gulf. Here the convention delegate can rest from his labors and get splendid fishing and surf bathing. It is only a few hours ride from San Antonio to the Llano River and the Nueces River where the finest fresh water fishing in America can be had, or in season quail shooting, duck shooting, deer hunting and the like.



Fourth Mission

San Antonio is the half way house to the Pacific Slope and the visitor from the North and East can return through New Orleans and the picturesque Old South, and go North through Kansas City and Denver, through the heart of the Golden West. So, from the traveler's point of view, San Antonio is right in the center of things.

Commercial San Antonio

Against the historic background of the storied past, modern San Antonio has grown up a busy commercial city, developing more rapidly than any other city in the Southwest, and owing to the fact that her tributary territory is but yet partially developed, possesses almost unlimited opportunities for future growth. San Antonio stands now where Los Angeles stood some six or seven years ago, and competent and conservative judges predict the same phenomenal development for this city in the near future.

San Antonio is a jobbing and wholesale center, and does the distributing for a territory as large as the state of Ohio. It has also a large business with Mexico. New railroads projected through this San Antonio territory will further develop that country as well as this city, and bring new opportunities for business and investment.

San Antonio has 214 manufacturing plants, large and small. Its two leading breweries are the largest of the kind in the South and employ over nine hundred men. It has large foundries and machine shops, cotton compresses and oil

mills, soap and saddle factories, food product factories, clothing factories, sash and blind factories and other enterprises. The development of an oil field adjacent to the city and the opening up of fine deposits of lignite coal by the projected railroads will do much to develop a manufacturing industry here.



A Bird's-eye

San Antonio is the shopping center of the Southwest, and has some of the largest retail establishments south of Saint Louis. Its merchants import goods from all over the world, and in the quality and quantity of goods displayed, as well as reasonableness of price, offer the shopper exceptional advantages.

In percentage of gain in new buildings San Antonio stands third in the list of American cities. Three splended new hotels were completed in 1909 and three new office buildings of from six to ten stories in height are now rapidly nearing completion. Store buildings,

apartment houses and residences have been constructed everywhere in the city. San Antonio real estate has shown a steady appreciation in value and business properties in this city offer a most stable and profitable investment, one that is certain to increase in value with the growth of the city.



of San Antonio

San Antonio has six national banks, three state banks one of which does a trust company business, two trust companies, and four private banks. The aggregate deposits are estimated by the bankers at between fifteen and sixteen millions. The San Antonio banks issue letters of credit and traveller's checks and buy and sell foreign exchange.



San Antonio's Hotels

San Antonio has the best hotels and more extensive hotel accommodations than any city in the Southwest. This city has in The Gunter, St. Anthony and the Menger three modern and up-to-date hotels, which will compare favorably with any in the country. In the Hot Wells Hotel and bath-house, just outside of the city, is a suburban resort with splendid sulphur baths easily accessible by street car lines. In hotels like the Hutchins and the Nueces, there are smaller family hotels which are elegant and delightful. Among the other well known hotels of San Antonio may be mentioned; The Bexar, The Angelus, The New Maverick, The Crockett, and The Elite. The city also has a great many private boarding houses of the highest quality and many apartment houses, such as: Terrell Flats, Clerc Apartments, Gurden Apartments, the Randolph and numerous others. A complete list of hotels, apartment houses and restaurants with their addresses follows in the rear of this book together with their rates.



The Menger Hotel

Though the oldest hostlery in San Antonio and probably in Southwest Texas, the Menger Hotel is still one of the most modern, having undergone a few months ago a thorough renovation. The hotel was founded in the sixties by one of the first German pioneers and has since then enjoyed a very enviable reputation. It is located in the center of the city and faces Alamo Plaza, one of San Antonio's beauty spots.



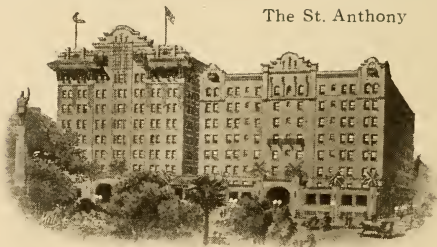
The Menger

Its general architectural character, patio, large and airy halls and corridors, give it a distinctly Southern stamp, and the old timer anxious to enjoy all that is modern in the quiet, peaceful

air of yesterday could hardly find a better place. Both rooming accommodations and cuisine will satisfy the most exacting.

The St. Anthony Hotel.

This truly metropolitan establishment stands opposite Travis Park in quiet surroundings, one block from San Antonio's busiest thoroughfare, Houston Street. The hotel represents an investment of nearly \$2,000,000 and has been claimed on good authority to be the finest establishment of its kind in the entire South. Its spacious lobbies, loggias, dining halls, ball room and Roman court are excelled by few hotels in the United States in either size or beauty. The St. Anthony is equipped with



The St. Anthony

every modern feature that goes to add to the traveler's and tourist's comfort and the opinion of the fastidious is that its service could not be improved upon, a fact which is amply demonstrated by the circumstance that after less than

one year of operation it was decided to add to the original structure an annex more than doubling its rooming capacity.



The Gunter Hotel.

This, San Antonio's latest hotel acquisition, stands at the corner of Houston and St. Mary's streets and past it floods the city's busiest life. Building and appointments are of the most modern type and represent a very happy effort in combining metropolitan hotel architecture with the city's climate. Though a great deal of space had to be sacrificed and large expenses incurred, its builders wanted an establishment suited to climatic conditions and

met very fine success; in fact the Gunter is looked upon today as the ideal hotel structure for southern latitudes. Its foyers, lobby, dining hall, parlors and corridors would be hard to surpass in either spaciousness or beauty of decoration. The service of the hotel is excellent and the establishment has been a success from the day it opened its doors—a few months ago.



San Antonio Facts

Population 110,000.

The center of the largest undeveloped territory in the United States.

Bank clearings amount to \$500,000,000 annually.

Has the best and purest artesian water supply in the country.



The Crockett

Has a climate that is excelled by none on the North American continent.

Its mortality rate is less than 12 to the thousand per annum.

Has the finest hotels in the entire Southwest.

Has the finest examples of Spanish Missions in the western hemisphere.

Is the center of education in the Southwest and for Mexico.

Is the social center of Texas.

Stands third in building operations in the United States.

The value of buildings completed in 1909 exceeds the sum of \$4,250,000.



The Nueces

Its real estate transfers in 1909 reached the total of \$14,217,394.

Post office receipts in 1909 were \$243,880.53.

Assessments in 1909 were \$73,714,090.

Its total tax rate is only \$1.42 per centum.

Its cost only \$716,646 to run the city in 1910.

Parks and plazas have an area of 349 acres and are the most beautiful anywhere.

Has 75 miles of electric street railroads with free transfers to any part of the city.

Is the hub of all railroad systems in Texas.

Has a trade territory of 600,000 square miles.

Is located in a rich agricultural district which is rapidly developing.

Is the trade and tourist gateway to Mexico.

Has the second largest army post in the United States, Fort Sam Houston.

Its winter compares well with advanced spring in the North.

No heat prostrations during the summer.

Only one cloudy day in five.

Has the finest hot sulphur wells in the United States.

What You Should See in San Antonio

The Alamo—East side Alamo Plaza.

Federal Building—North side Alamo Plaza.

San Fernando Cathedral—West side Main Plaza.

County Court House—South side Main Plaza.

City Hall—Center Military Plaza.

Capilla de los Milagros (Wonder Chapel)—Take West End Car. Located at 115 Ruiz street.

The Missions—Concepcion de la Acuna, San Jose, San Juan and Espada.—Take hacks.

Fair Grounds, Hot Sulphur Wells, Insane Hospital, Ostrich Farm—Take cars on Navarro street, corner East Houston street.

Maverick Park, Brackenridge Park, Convent of the Incarnate Word, Country Club, Golf Links, Alamo Heights, Davy Crockett's Home, Head

of the River and Palisades—Take River avenue car on East Houston street and Ave. C.

Fort Sam Houston, West Texas Military Institute—Take Nolan or Army Post car on East Houston street.

U. S. Arsenal—Take South Flores car West on Houston street.

Old Spanish Cemetery—(San Fernando)—Take I. & G. N. car West on Houston street. Get off at Pinto.

City Cemetery—Take S. P. Depot car on East Houston street.

St. Louis' College, Peacock's College for Boys, Lakeside Classical Institute, San Antonio College for Girls, West End Lake and Park, Protestant Orphan's Home—Take West End car West on Houston street.

San Pedro Park, Electric Park, Base Ball Park, Laurel Heights—Take San Pedro car West on Houston street.

Crockett Square—Take Tobin Hill car West on Houston street; get off at Cypress street, and go one block West.

Franklin Square—Take I. & G. N. car West, get off at San Saba street.

Travis Park—Two blocks Northwest of Alamo Plaza.

Madison Square—Take Tobin Hill car West on Houston street.

Irrigated Gardens—Take San Fernando car West on Houston street.

Main Plaza, Military Plaza, Washington Square, Milam Square, Market House and Convention Hall, Santa Rosa Hospital, Catholic Orphanage, Prospect Heights, Academy of Our Lady of the Lake—Take I. & G. N. car West on Houston street.

Chamber of Commerce—106 Crockett street.

Hotels and Boarding Houses

Alton Hotel, Mrs. Zimmerman, Prop., Southern Pacific Station. Rates \$1.00.

Angelus Hotel, Gus Franks, Prop., Alamo & Commerce Streets. Rates \$1.00 a day and up. European.

Bexar Hotel, Alfred Sanner, Prop., 327 E. Houston Street. American, \$2.00 to \$3.00 a day, European, \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Clerc Apartments, Miss Jane Clerc, 314 Third St. Rates \$1.00 to \$2.50 per day.

Colonial Hotel, Mrs. T. S. Cosgrove, E. Commerce Street. Rates \$1.00 and up.

Crockett Hotel, Miss F. Pegg; Crockett and Nacogdoches Sts. European, \$1.00 to \$2.50 per day.

Elite Hotel, Wm. H. Salge, Main Plaza, European, \$1.00 and \$1.50 per day.

Fairmount Hotel, Owen Reilly, Prop., 359 E. Commerce St. European, \$1.00 a day, American, \$2.00 a day. Special rates by month.

Grand Central Hotel, Mrs. Hawkins, Prop.,
1410 W. Houston St., Rates \$20.00 a month
and up. American.

Gunter Hotel, Gunter Hotel Co., East Houston
St. Rates \$1.50 a day and up. European.

Gurden Apartments, B. F. Gurden, Prop., 902
Avenue C. Rates \$30.00 a month and up.

Hutchins Hotel, M. B. Hutchins, Prop., 205
Garden St. Rates \$2.50 and up per day;
\$15.00 a week. American.

Menger Hotel, Wm. Bruce, Mgr., Alamo Plaza.
American, \$3.00 to \$5.00 a day; special
rates by week or month.

Maverick Hotel, C. B. Ward, Prop., 328 E.
Houston St. European, \$1.00 a day and up;
American, \$2.00 a day and up.

St. Anthony Hotel, F. M. Swearingen & Son,
Prop., Travis Park. Rates \$2 a day and up.

Restaurants

Four Seasons Restaurant, 314 W. Commerce St

Mission Cafe, 506 E. Houston St.

Matthews Delicatessen, Losoya St.

Riverside Restaurant, 101 E. Houston St.

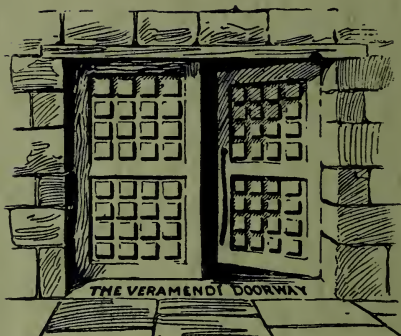
Saratoga Restaurant, 228 E. Houston St.

GUESSAZ & FERLET CO., S. A.

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